Employment of Tugs at Alleppey Port.

119. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): (*a*) Can the delay in shipping at Alleppey be overcome to some extent if the services of tugs are made available?

(*b*) Has there been any requisition from the merchants or boat-owners for keeping a tug at Alleppey? If so, what action have the Government taken on that requisition?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The use of a tug would no doubt facilitate the work of lighters in foul weather, but its employment would entail additional shipping charges to shippers who will have to pay tug-hire in addition to boat-hire.

(*b*) There have been no requisitions from the merchants or boat-owners for a tug at Alleppey. The shippers are said not to be in favour of the proposal at present.

Statistics of Students belonging to Depressed Classes.

120. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many pupils of the depressed classes completed primary education in 1098;

(*b*) how many of them joined secondary schools; and

(*c*) how many discontinued their studies?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) A statement *containing the information required by the member is laid on the table.

Stipends to Pupils of Depressed Classes.

121. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to institute a scheme for the grant of fifty stipends annually to fifty select pupils of the depressed classes completing primary education and desiring to continue their studies in secondary schools?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This question is covered by a resolution balloted for discussion at this meeting of the Council.

Poramboke Lands in Populous Villages.

122. MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): (*a*) Are the Government aware of the existence of plots of Government lands reserved as *porambokes* in the midst of densely populated villages and tending perennially to endanger the sanitation of the neighbourhood?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they will grant such *porambokes* to private individuals so that they may be reclaimed and rendered harmless to sanitation?

Vide Appendix—page 517.

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